

Global Youth Coalition on Plastic Pollution (GYCPP)

As Earth's youngest inhabitants, we extend both appreciation for the progress achieved since INC-2 and a resounding plea for urgent action in the face of a plastic industry that jeopardizes our shared home. **We also express our gravest concern over the persistent challenge of finding common ground on many substantive issues, coupled with a disheartening lack of consideration for the unique challenges faced by Small Island Developing States (SIDs) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs).**

We echo the call from INC-2 to shift the focus from reactive measures to preventive strategies. It is time to breathe life into these discussions by urgently eliminating hazardous, avoidable, and single-use plastics. We implore you to pave the way for a safe, just transition to a circular economy rooted in science, indigenous knowledge, and values. Let this treaty prioritize primary production reduction, promote the reuse of non-plastic materials and establish clear definitions, standards, and labelling. We strongly advocate for the integration of an innovation and technology transfer mechanism, ensuring that advancements benefit all nations and accelerate the transition.

Our vision for this instrument is one built on **gender equality, intergenerational equity and environmental justice**. We stand in solidarity with workers, waste pickers, women, Indigenous peoples, people with disabilities and other marginalized communities, recognizing their essential roles in sustainable solutions.

It is a **wake-up call for businesses that their purpose goes beyond profit**; it's about serving humanity, not putting it at risk. Let's make businesses step up, lead with purpose, and dive headfirst into the realm of sustainability. A treaty dependent solely on public resources for implementation is unacceptable. The time has come for polluters to bear the financial responsibility for the harm they perpetuate.

Finally, let's remind everyone that the instrument is not merely an agreement between member states but an intergenerational pact between current decision-makers, youth, and future custodians. Let us forge a path forward that serves humanity, acknowledging our shared responsibilities to protect the planet and ensure a flourishing legacy for generations to come.



Children & Youth
Constituency for
Sustainable
Communities

